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CLAIMS

1. A skeleton member structure comprising:

a skeleton member; and

5 granular materials having hollow portions or porous granular materials,

wherein a space inside the skeleton member and/or a space surrounded by the skeleton member and a surrounding panel member is filled with the granular materials.

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2. A skeleton member structure according to claim 1, wherein the granular materials are filled directly into the space or into a filling member which is fitted into the skeleton member.

15 3. A skeleton member structure according to claim 1, wherein the skeleton member includes a plurality of frames, side sills, cross members, pillars, beams and rails, all being for use on an automobile.

20 4. A skeleton member structure according to claim 1, further comprising second granular materials, adjacent ones of which are bonded to one another by the hollow first granular materials.

5. A skeleton member structure according to claim 4, wherein
25 the first granular materials are made of a resin material.

6. A skeleton member structure according to claim 4, wherein the second granular materials are solid.

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7. A skeleton member structure according to claim 4, wherein the second granular materials comprises hollow or porous granular materials.

5 8. A method for forming a solidified granular material filled in a skeleton member and/or in a spaced surrounded by the skeleton member and a surrounding panel member, the method comprising the steps of:

mixing first granular materials which are hollow and made
10 of a resin, with second granular materials; and

bonding adjacent ones of the second granular materials to one another via the first granular materials by melting surfaces of the first granular materials.